

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 232979

14

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 SCEM-02 SCI-06

L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FPC-01 EUR-25

INT-08 SS-20 NSC-10 CIEP-02 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

DODE-00 /138 R

DRAFTED BY AF/N:WSWEISLOGEL:CHG

APPROVED BY AF - RSSMITH

AF/N - MR BLAKE

EB/ORF/FSE:WWHITMAN

----- 097070

R 272333Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 232979

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ENRG, AG, US

SUBJECT: ALGERIAN LNG

REF: ALGIERS 2339

1. AT MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY NEWSOM NOV. 23, LOUIS CABOT, CHAIRMAN AND ROBERT CHARPIE, PRESIDENT CABOT CORP. SAID THEY WOULD BE IN ALGIERS END OF THIS WEEK FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITH SONATRACH ON RESTORATION GAS SHIPMENTS. THEY ARE CONFIDENT THAT GOA FULLY APPRECIATES ROLE OF DISTRIGAS AS TEST CASE FOR LNG IMPORTS FROM ALGERIA, AND THAT GOA WILL ATTEMPT PROVE RELIABILITY AS SUPPLIER BY EXPEDITING SHIPMENT.

2. ACCORDING TO CABOT AND CHARPIE, THERE IS NO WAY SKIKDA LINES 2 AND 3 CAN BE REPAIRED PRIOR DECEMBER 20, AND AFTER THAT IT WILL TAKE 8 TO TEN DAYS BEFORE LOADING CAN START. ALGERIAN-OWNED TANKER WHICH GAZ DE FRANCE HAS BEEN USING TO LIFT LNG MUST GO INTO DRYDOCK FOR INSPECTION BY DEC.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 232979

31 OR LOSE WARRANTY. QUOTE DESCARTES UNQUOTE WHICH IS UNDER

TEMPORARY CHARTER TO FRENCH FIRM UNTIL DEC. 27, RETURNS TO DISTRIGAS CONTROL AFTER THAT DATE. NEW TANKER DESTINED FOR GAZ DE FRANCE PROBABLY WILL NOT BE LAUNCHED UNTIL MARCH. THUS, FRENCH WILL BE UNABLE TO LIFT LNG AFTER DEC. 27. CABOT AND CHARPIE INTEND PROPOSE TO SONATRACH THAT IT DIVERT TO DISTRIGAS ONE OF SHIPMENTS INTENDED FOR GAZ DE FRANCE BEFORE JANUARY 1. LACK OF FRENCH SHIPPING WOULD

PROVIDE ALGERIANS WITH PLAUSIBLE JUSTIFICATION FOR DIVERSION.

3. ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTION IS THAT DISTRIGAS TRY TO CHARTER 88,000 CUBIC METER NORWEGIAN LNG TANKER "NORMAN LADY" TO LIFT CARGO OF LNG FROM SIKDA'S ONE OPERATING LINE ASAP AND UNLOAD PART OF IT AT FOS AND REST IN US. THIS WOULD HAVE ADVANTAGE OF PARTIALLY SATISFYING FRENCH NEEDS AND INCLUDE FACE-SAVING MEASURE FOR ALGERIANS IF THEY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT SHIPPING LNG TO US DURING OIL EMBARGO. "DESCARTES" COULD BE USED TO DELIVER SIMILAR SPLIT SHIPMENT BUT QUANTITIES WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY LESS.

4. CABOT/CHARPIE INQUIRED WHETHER USINT MIGHT SOUND OUT SONATRACH CONTACTS ON ABOVE PROPOSALS, PRIOR TO START OF THEIR OWN NEGOTIATIONS, EMPHASIZING IMPORTANCE RESUMPTION LNG SHIPMENTS TO CURRENT FPC HEARINGS AND FUTURE US-ALGERIAN LNG PROJECTS.

5. USINT IS REQUESTED TO MAKE THE SUGGESTED LOW KEY APPROACH TO SONATRACH IF, IN ITS OPINION, SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD BE USEFUL.

KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NATURAL GAS, IMPORTS, CARGO SHIPS, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** worrelsw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE232979  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WSWEISLOGEL:CHG  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731110/aaaaagrp.tel  
**Line Count:** 93  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** ALGIERS 2339  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** worrelsw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14-Dec-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ALGERIAN LNG  
**TAGS:** ENRG, ETRD, ETRN, AG, US  
**To:** ALGIERS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005